

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-01 CEA-01 SAM-01 IO-10 NIC-01 SAJ-01 BIB-01 L-02

H-02 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /112 W

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P R 140345Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4151

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 2621

DEPT. PASS AGRICULTURE, FAS, FCA, GRANIN & FEED DIV.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, CH, US

SUBJ: PRC AGRICULTURAL IMPORT POLICY TOWARD US

REFS: A) 1974 HONG KONG 12545

B) PEKING 0071

1. HAO CHUNG-SHIH, A VM OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, SAID THAT THE PRC HAS ADOPTED A POLICY OF NOT BUYING ANY WHEAT FROM THE US DURING 1975. HAO ATTRIBUTED THE DECISION TO (1) THE HUGE BILATERAL TRADE DEFICIT AND (2) "CHINA'S CONTINUING ABUNDANT HARVESTS". HE MADE THE STATEMENT TO A VISITING JAPANESE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DELEGATION (MARCH 13 UPI TOKYO STORY APPEARING IN MARCH 14 HK STANDARD).

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2. THIS STATEMENT GOES FARTHER THAN VICE PREMIER LI

HSIEN-NIEN'S NOVEMBER 8, 1974 STATEMENT THAT THE PRC DID NOT WANT TO MAKE CONTRACTS FOR FURTHER GRAIN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. (REF A), AND IT PUTS MORE STRESS ON THE TRADE DEFICIT THAN TRADE MINISTER LI CHIANG DID IN TALKING WITH MR. BUSH IN JANUARY (REF B). BUT HAO'S REMARKS, WHICH ARE REALLY JUST A SUMMATION OF WHAT HAS ALREADY HAPPENED, APPEAR TO LEAVE OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE WHEAT PURCHASES IN 1976 AND FOLLOWING YEARS. EARLIER LI HAD BEEN QUOTED AS SAYING THAT PEKING HAD "NO PLAN TO IMPORT US GRAINS HEREAFTER", WHICH SOUNDED AS THOUGH IT MIGHT FORECLOSE THE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE PRC PURCHASES.

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION PEKING CAN DEVELOP ON HAO'S MEETING WITH THE GROUP, ESPECIALLY ON THE PRC'S ATTITUDE TOWARD FUTURE GRAIN PURCHASES FROM THE U.S.
CROSS

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Disposition History: n/a
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